

## • Abroad •

**Geneva.** The coldest-tempered European observers believe that the West will give way on Berlin. Their skepticism is based on: a) the policy differences among the Western governments, blocking united action; b) the spiritual lethargy of the Western public, bathed in prosperity and unwilling to face the challenge of war; c) the demonstrated incapacity of President Kennedy to act decisively in international affairs; d) the unpopularity—in nations so recently taught that Germans were the main enemy—of making Berlin the *casus belli*; e) Khrushchev's skill in keeping each successive provocation under the level that might seem to give convincing motivation to a nuclear response. They believe that Khrushchev will go ahead with the envelopment and eventual absorption of Berlin, but by stages so indirect and complex as to hide from most of the public both the significance of his aggressions and the reality of Western retreat. The only chance for a blowup, according to this widely accepted analysis, would be a move by Khrushchev so blatant and undisguised that the Western leaders would be virtually forced to act.

**Accra.** While Kwame Nkrumah, in pursuit of his Pan-African ambitions, is touring Russia and the East European satellite capitals, with a side-trip to Peiping under consideration, domestic and imported Communists steadily strengthen their position on the home front. A pro-Soviet faction—headed by Kwesi Amoako-Atta, Martin Appiah Dankwa, John Tettegah, Kwaku Akewei and other prominent officials—is ascendant in the ruling political party (CPP). Besides her large embassy, Russia has taken over two hotels (the Ringway and the Star) to house her army of agents, and opened a cultural center and an industrial exhibit.

**Jakarta.** The buildup of the Indonesian airforce, promised under last winter's military agreement with Russia, began this month when Russian crews flew in several TU-16 (Badger) jet bombers in augury of many to follow. The Badgers are similar to U.S. B-47s; and, as Air Marshal Suryadarma explained, give Indonesia "ability to reach out beyond its borders." Russian prop-jet transports (Cats), comparable to the U.S. C-130s (Hercules), also arrived. Other types expected soon include Yak-42s (day fighters) and Backfin night fighters. The Russian representative remarked on turning over the first batch that Russia was "supporting Indonesia's fight to wrest West Irian territory from Dutch colonialist rule." Foreign Minister Subandrio added, for good measure, that Portugal had better watch out for Timor.

**Glasgow.** By stringent measures—including a six months' incubation period for dogs seeking entry—Britain has managed to keep free from the nearly world-wide scourge of rabies. There is, therefore, widespread alarm at the revelation that an American airman, Robert W. Harmon,

has been hospitalized with a suspected case. Harmon had been bitten by a dog in Germany, shortly before leaving for home on the troopship *Pate*. The doctors on board diagnosed rabies. He was landed at Wick in north Scotland, and flown here, to Ruchill hospital, where he is being kept in isolation until the diagnosis is finally confirmed—which may take as much as six months.



Vicky, *London Evening Standard*

### The Kitchen

**Peshawar, Pakistan.** The Northwest Frontier is still, as it has been from time immemorial, the theater of continuous assassinations, raids, blood feuds, kidnappings and arson. This summer, the price of bullets—the local currency—has dropped spectacularly (from \$7 to \$1 per ten rounds of .303s). This inflation was provoked by the activities of an Afghan agent, Badshah Gul, who has been distributing large quantities of money and radios as well as bullets in a campaign to rouse tribal interest in "Pakhtunistan"—the proposed new "independent state" to be formed out of NW Pakistan and SE Afghanistan. Gul's operations are carefully stimulated by the Russians, seeking to bring trouble to the anti-Soviet Pakistan regime. The tribesmen are happy to accept Russo-Afghan largesse, but show little interest in the politics. When they occasionally do, President Ayub Khan's hand is swiftly felt in floggings, property confiscation and jail sentences.

**Paris.** Comment of the European Left on the new Papal encyclical, *Mater et Magistra*, has ranged from praise to rapture. Even the Communist press finds much to greet. The Mendésiste *L'Express*, applauding the encyclical's style, attitude and content, remarks: "John XXIII does not forget that both Castro and Lumumba were, at the outset, children of the Church." The British *New Statesman* finds in the encyclical "the Vatican's acceptance of the Crosland-Gaitskell (i.e., official Labor Party) view of life." The *Manchester Guardian* agrees that there is now "a Socialist Pope . . . in the sense in which moderate Labor Party leaders are called 'Socialists,'" and concludes: "By this document the Roman Catholic Church has made Keynesian economics its own."

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